

Surely this should be sufficient to provide a fully responsive pleading – and it is certainly sufficient insofar as the undersigned's past experience with dealing in these matters is concerned.

It appears that the objection to the July 13, 2004 communication has been issued in error.

In any event, if it is not already clear from the above and prior record, applicant believes that new claims 32-35 distinguish over the prior art of record (when considered as a whole in view of parent claims) because they respectively add to the claimed combination of features the following points:

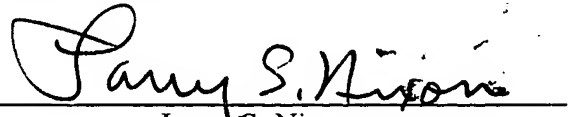
- The dispensing controller is operative to determine times at least partially based upon an input related to biological information as defined in the parent claim.
- The apparatus further includes a communication unit.
- The communication unit is a wireless communication unit.
- The communication unit includes an animal location functionality.

If there is any remaining concern that the applicant has failed to point out the alleged distinctions over the prior art with respect to the new claims, it is respectfully requested that the undersigned be telephoned so as to avoid any further unnecessary delay in the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,

NIXON & VANDERHYE P.C.

By:


Larry S. Nixon
Reg. No. 25,640

LSN:vc
1100 North Glebe Road, 8th Floor
Arlington, VA 22201-4714
Telephone: (703) 816-4000
Facsimile: (703) 816-4100